

IN THE CLAIMS (as amended During International Preliminary Examination):

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) Input device ~~(50)~~ for the activation and control of functions at least one apparatus ~~(10, 11, 12, 16)~~ of a dentist's or dental treatment station/work station, ~~wherein~~ the input device ~~(50)~~ has comprising:

- a first input element ~~(52)~~ for the generation of navigation information for the control of a pointer on a user interface, which is represented on a display ~~(13)~~ of the dentist's treatment station,

- at least a second input element ~~(55)~~ for the generation of control information, with which, independently of the navigation information generated by ~~means of~~ the first input element ~~(52)~~, functions of the apparatuses ~~(10, 11, 12, 16)~~ are selectable and/or activatable,

- a transfer means ~~(51)~~ device for the wireless transfer of the navigation and control information generated with the aid of the first and second input elements ~~(52, 55)~~ to the apparatuses ~~(10, 11, 12, 16)~~ or to a functional unit ~~(42)~~ connected upstream of the apparatuses ~~(10, 11, 12, 16)~~,

wherein the control information generated via the second input element ~~(55)~~ is useable for control of at least one apparatus ~~(10, 11, 12, 16)~~ independently of the unit ~~(40)~~ administering the user interface.

2. (Currently Amended) Input device according to claim 1,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the first input element ~~(52)~~ has comprises a navigation element ~~(53)~~ for the generation of two-dimensional navigation information, and at least two selection keys ~~(54a, 54e)~~ for the generation of supplementary selection information.

3. (Currently Amended) Input device according to claim 2,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the navigation element is a joystick (53).

4. (Currently Amended) Input device according to claim 3,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

for the generation of an additional item of selection information, the joystick (53) can be pressed down.

5. (Currently Amended) Input device according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 2 to 4,

~~characterized in that,~~ comprising a common interface for passing on

the information generated by ~~means of~~ the navigation element (53) and the selection keys (54a, 54e) in a navigation mode ~~is passed on via a common interface~~.

6. (Currently Amended) Input device according to claim 5,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

in the navigation mode, the ~~information generated by means of the navigation element (53) and the selection keys (54a, 54e) is passed on via~~ common interface is a UART interface.

7. (Currently Amended) Input device according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 2 to 6,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

in a menu mode, the function of the navigation element (53) is blocked, and ~~solely~~ only selection information can be generated with the aid of the selection keys (54a, 54e).

8. (Currently Amended) Input device according to claim 7,
~~characterized in that, wherein~~
the first input element ~~(52)~~ has comprises two additional selection keys ~~(54b, 54d)~~ for
the generation of further selection information in the menu mode.

9. (Currently Amended) Input device according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1,
~~characterized in that, wherein~~
the second input element ~~(55)~~ is formed by ~~means of~~ a function key field having a
plurality of function keys ~~(56 to 63)~~.

10. (Currently Amended) Input device according to claim 9,
~~characterized in that, wherein~~
a part of the function keys ~~(56 to 58)~~ is provided for the control of an interface unit
~~(16)~~ for the selective transfer of video and/or audio signals.

11. (Currently Amended) Input device according to claim 9 ~~or 10~~,
~~characterized in that, wherein~~
a part of the function keys ~~(59 to 61)~~ is provided for the selection of a video source
provided for representation on a display ~~(13)~~.

12. (Currently Amended) Input device according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 9 ~~to 11~~,
~~characterized in that, wherein~~
a part of the function keys ~~(62, 63)~~ is provided for selection of an image signal,
provided for representation on a display ~~(13)~~, corresponding to a PC graphic standard, ~~in~~
~~particular corresponding to the VGA standard.~~

13. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment station/work station,
having comprising

plural ~~apparatuses (10, 11, 12, 16), in particular~~ dental work apparatuses and/or
examination apparatuses,

an input device ~~(50)~~ for the generation and wireless transfer of navigation and/or
control information for the activation and control of functions of the apparatuses ~~(10, 11, 12,~~
~~16)~~ and

a functional unit ~~(41)~~, connected upstream of the apparatuses ~~(10, 11, 12, 16)~~, which
receives the navigation and/or control information transferred from the input device ~~(50)~~ and
passes this onto the apparatuses ~~(10, 11, 12, 16)~~.

14. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to
claim 13,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the functional unit ~~(41)~~ passes on the navigation and/or control information
transferred from the input device ~~(50)~~ to the apparatuses ~~(10, 11, 12, 16)~~ at least partially in a
wireless manner.

15. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to
claim 14,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the functional unit ~~(41)~~ has comprises a master module ~~(42)~~ for wireless
communication with the apparatuses ~~(10, 11, 12, 16)~~, whereby in each case a slave module
~~(10a, 11a, 12a)~~ is associated with the apparatuses ~~(10, 11, 12, 16)~~, which slave module passes

on the information received from the master module (42) to the associated apparatus (10, 11, 12, 16).

16. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to claim 15,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the slave modules (10a, 11a, 12a) are integrated in the respective apparatuses (10, 11, 12, 16) or connected with these via a RS232 interface and/or a PC interface.

17. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 13 to 16,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

~~there can be generated by means of the input device (50)~~ can generate

- navigation information for the control of a pointer on a user interface, which is represented on a display (13) of the dentist's treatment station, and

- ~~and~~ control information with which functions of the apparatuses (10, 11, 12, 16) are selectable and/or activatable independently of the navigation information.

18. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to claim 17,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the input device (50) ~~is configured in accordance with any of claims 1 to 12~~
comprising the activation and control of functions at least one apparatus of the treatment station/work station, the input device comprising:

- a first input element for the generation of navigation information for the control of a pointer on a user interface, which is represented on a display of the dentist's treatment station,

- at least a second input element for the generation of control information, with which, independently of the navigation information generated by the first input element, functions of the apparatuses are selectable and/or activatable, and

- a transfer device for the wireless transfer of the navigation and control information generated with the aid of the first and second input elements to the apparatuses or to a functional unit connected upstream of the apparatuses ,

wherein the control information generated via the second input element is useable for control of at least one apparatus independently of the unit administering the user interface.

19. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to any of claims claim 13 to 18,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the functional unit (41) further stands in connection with a server (40), whereby a data exchange between the server (40) and the apparatuses (10, 11, 12, 16) takes place via the functional unit (41).

20. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to claim 18,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the functional unit (41) is connected with the server (40) via a USB interface.

21. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to any of claims claim 13 to 20,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

at least one of the apparatuses controlled by the functional unit (41) is an interface unit (16) ~~which has the following features~~ comprising:

- at least two inputs for receiving input signals containing image information,
- at least two outputs for the passing on of output signals containing image information to one or more displays (13) connectable with the interface unit (16) and/or to further interface units, and
- at least one internal transfer unit (70, 72) for selective passing on of the input signals containing image information to the outputs.

22. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to claim 21,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

at least one input signal is a video signal.

23. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to claim 22,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the interface unit (16) ~~has~~ comprises at least two inputs and two outputs for video signals and a first transfer unit (70), via which the video input signals are selectively passed onto the outputs.

24. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to claim 23,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the interface unit (16) has an internal processing unit (73) for the transformation or processing of analog video signals, whereby the processing unit (73) has on the input side a first transformation block (73a) for the transformation of the analog video signal into a digital signal.

25. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to claim 24,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the digital signal produced by the first transformation block (73) is deliverable to a processing block (74) for digital processing of the video signal.

26. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to claim 24 ~~or 25~~,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the digital signal produced by the first transformation block (73) and, if applicable, processed by the processing block (74), is selectively deliverable to the first transfer unit (70) or to at least one further transformation unit (75) for the generation of a signal corresponding to a PC graphic standard.

27. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to claim 26,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the second transformation unit (75) produces a video signal corresponding to the VGA standard.

28. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to claim 27,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the digital signal produced by the first transformation block (73a) and, if applicable, processed by the processing block (74), is deliverable to a third transformation unit (76) for the generation of an output signal corresponding to the DVI standard.

29. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 21 to 28,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

at least one input signal is a signal corresponding to a PC graphic standard.

30. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to claim 29,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the interface unit (16) ~~has~~ comprising at least two inputs and two outputs for signals corresponding to the PC graphic standard, and a second transfer unit (72) via which the signals are selectively passed on to the outputs.

31. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to claim 29 ~~or 30~~,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the signals corresponding to the PC graphic standard are VGA signals.

32. (Currently Amended) Dentist's or dental treatment/work station according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 21 to 31,

~~characterized in that,~~ wherein

the interface unit ~~(16)~~ ~~has further~~ comprises at least two inputs and outputs for audio signals, which in each case are associated with the inputs and outputs for signals containing image information, and an audio transfer unit ~~(71)~~ via which the audio signals at the inputs are passed on corresponding to the passing on of the signals containing image information to the associated outputs.